Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"I want to know whether I have made that suggestion or not and . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—"The hon. Member is fully aware of the facts."

Medical

Pay and qualifications of the Venereologist.

* 1933 Q.—Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) what were the emoluments which Dr. Happer was getting in England before he was appointed as Venereologist in the General Hospital and at what pay he has now been appointed ;

(b) what are the academical qualifications and the hospital experience of the Indian officer whom this European officer has replaced ;

(c) what was the pay this Indian officer was drawing before he was replaced by the European officer ;

(d) what were the special reasons for recruiting an European officer in the place of an Indian officer ;

(e) whether it is a fact that it is proposed to advertise in England the post of Professors of Pathology, Physiology, Operative Surgery and other subjects in the Medical Colleges of Madras and Vizagapatam ; and

(f) if so, why the Government consider that any of the present incumbents are unfit to occupy such posts ?

A.—(a) The Government have no information about the emoluments of Dr. Happer before he was appointed as specialist in venereal diseases for this Presidency. His present pay is Rs. 1,600 a month.

(b) Academic qualifications—
(1) L.M.S.
(2) L.R.C.P. & S. (Edin.)
(3) M.S. (Madras) with Genito urinary surgery and venereal diseases as special subjects.

Previous experience—
(Temporary commission in I.M.S.).
(1) In charge of venereal wards at Indian Station Hospital, Roorki.
(2) In charge of venereal hospital at Kirkee.
(3) Specialist in prevention of disease for the Sialkot Brigade.
(4) In charge of venereal wards at Sialkot.

(c) Rs. 500 *plus* a special pay of Rs. 150.

(d) The Indian officer referred to was holding the post only as a temporary measure. The Government considered that in order to organize anti-venereal work in the Presidency on proper lines the services of the best available candidate should be obtained. The post was accordingly advertised in India and in England and the best qualified applicant was selected.

(e) It is proposed to advertise in India and in England for the post of Professor of Pathology in the Madras Medical College and the post of Professor of Physiology in the Vizagapatam Medical College.

(*f*) A specialist in Pathology competent to be the Director of the new Pathological Institute is required for the Madras Medical College. The present incumbent does not possess the experience required for this important post. The present acting professor of Physiology in the Vizagapatam Medical College declined the offer of permanent appointment.

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" May I know what made the Government to select this officer, this young man from England on a very big salary ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Young men are also good for some work."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" Am I to understand that an experienced Indian officer who is competent to treat venereal diseases and who is holding the highest medical degrees here and also has got triple certificates from England was found by the Government incompetent simply because he is an Indian, incompetent to be in charge of that department ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Dr. Happer was found to be better than the Indian officer who is referred to."

Dr. B. S. MALLAYYA :—" How, Sir ? Who selected him ? Were there any Indians on that board who made the selection ? Is Dr. Happer conversant with the vernaculars of India ? Does the hon. the Minister think that venereal diseases in India are to be treated on the same lines as those in Europe ? Will he be pleased . . ."

The hon. the PRESIDENT :—" The hon. Member is making a speech."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" With reference to clause (*d*), may I know what are the qualifications of the best qualified applicant who was selected for this place ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Will the hon. Member refer to Dr. Happer's qualifications ? I have mentioned them already in answer to another question."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know if the Indian officer does not possess these qualifications referred to by the Minister ? "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Mere degrees do not constitute all the qualifications. Something else is necessary."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" I am asking, Sir, apart from the academic qualifications in respect of which both these gentlemen are on an equal footing, what are the other qualifications which this officer, Dr. Happer, possesses "

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" It is competency to deal with these matters."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know on what ground that opinion of the Government is based ? Is it experience in this work or is it anything else ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Experience or work, testimonials given by medical officers who are competent to judge his capacity."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know what the experience of this officer is, whether he worked in connexion with venereal diseases and, if so, where ? "

27th March 1929]

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" He has got experience of work in one of the best venereal hospitals in England."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" Whose are the testimonials, Sir, that my hon. friend has referred to ?"

The hon Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Some of the most eminent doctors in regard to venereal diseases."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the testimonials of the other Indian doctors were examined by the Government and were found wanting ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" All those sent up were examined."

Purchase of hospital furniture from places outside India.

*1934 Q.—Mr. A. B. SHETTY: Will the hon. the Minister for Public Health be pleased to state—

(a) whether any, and if so, what kind of hospital furniture is now ordered from any place outside India;

(b) whether all the furniture required for hospital use are available locally; and

(c) if so, what the necessity is for getting it from foreign countries?

A.—(a) & (c) Cots and food-wagons of the special patterns required for hospitals are of European manufacture and are therefore purchased through the Store department of the India Office and the question whether they can be got locally is under consideration.

(b) All other articles are available locally and are purchased in India.

Mr. A. B. SHETTY :—" May I know whether any orders have been recently passed to the effect that the cots and food-wagons of the special pattern required for hospitals should be obtained from England ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That is what I have stated in the answer, clause (a); purchasing locally is being considered."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether there is any medical virtue in these special patterns and whether they could not be made from such materials as are available in India ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" Such patterns as are required for this purpose have to be got from outside. They are not available here."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" May I know whether the hon. Minister examined this question whether these cots and food-wagons could not be made out of such materials and on such patterns, as are available in India ?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR :—" That is why the last portion of the answer, clause (a), is to the effect that the question whether they can be got locally is under consideration."

Mr. S. SATYAMURTI :—" No, Sir. I am asking whether the Minister has examined the question as to whether these special patterns alone are suitable for this purpose, or whether the patterns cannot be modified so as to get these things made locally ?"